

Post-Trump Politics

The Editors

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With no going back, it's time to look ahead.

In an important new cover essay for the Claremont Review of Books, Christopher DeMuth [argues](#) that today's political upheaval is "the result of powerful social and technological developments that have weakened our institutions of representative government. Harnessing today's nationalist impulses is a task for conservatives and libertarians," he writes, "who stand in the shoes of the liberal reformers of the middle and late 19th century."

Among DeMuth's recommended reforms: a reclamation of Congressional authority from the regulatory state, a civic education leavened by a dedication to free inquiry, and an orderly transition from financing the welfare state through debt to financing it through tax revenue. Each effort, DeMuth writes, "emphasizes pluralism and competition over monopoly and regimentation, and leaves cultural and ideological battles to be fought out, privately and locally, within a framework that discourages coerced conformity."

In response to these proposals, Henry Olsen [counsels](#) that constructive nationalist policy must respond to the moral limitations of today's aristocratic meritocrats; F.H. Buckley [warns](#) that national solidarity may remain elusive if constitutional powers remain separated; and Yuval Levin [casts](#) Trumpism as a transitional movement; and Richard Reinsch [suggests](#) reform begin with reining in the federal and academic bureaucracies.

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